



# **MINUTES**

## ***Transit Committee Meeting***

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### **Committee Members Present**

#### **Via Teleconference**

Tim Shaw, Chairman  
Harry S. Sidhu, Vice Chairman  
Doug Chaffee  
Andrew Do  
Steve Jones  
Tam Nguyen

### **Staff Present**

Jennifer L. Bergener, Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Sahara Meisenheimer, Deputy Clerk of the Board

#### **Via Teleconference**

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
Gina Ramirez, Deputy Clerk of the Board  
James Donich, General Counsel

### **Committee Members Absent**

Vicente Sarmiento

## **Call to Order**

The May 13, 2021 regular meeting of the Transit Committee (Committee) was called to order by Committee Chairman Shaw at 9:01 a.m.

## **Roll Call**

The Deputy Clerk of the Board conducted an attendance roll call and announced there was a quorum of the Committee.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Jones led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Shaw introduced new Board Member Director Nguyen.

Director Nguyen stated that this is his first committee meeting, and as a new Board Member, he has only been through two Board meetings and has learned a lot. He thanked Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and staff for briefing him and now has a greater appreciation for transportation.

### **1. Public Comments**

No public comments were received.

## **Special Calendar**

There were no Special Calendar matters.



## **Consent Calendar (Items 2 through 10)**

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 5-0, to approve the minutes of the Transit Committee meeting of April 8, 2021.

Director Nguyen abstained due to not being present at the April 8, 2021 Transit Committee meeting.

### **3. Agreement for Building Repairs at Garden Grove Bus Base**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-1-3295 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Golden Gate Steel, Inc., doing business as Golden Gate Construction, the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the amount of \$222,169, for building repairs at the Garden Grove Bus Base.

### **4. Agreement for Americans with Disabilities Act Access Improvements and Parking Lot Pavement Replacement at Fullerton Park-and-Ride**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-1-3294 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Onyx Paving Company, Inc., the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the amount of \$525,000, for the construction of Americans with Disabilities Act-prescribed access improvements and parking lot pavement replacement at the Fullerton Park-and-Ride.

### **5. Agreement for Landscape Maintenance Services Along the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to:

- A. Find J&S Property Management and Maintenance Inc., doing business as J&S Property Landscape, the apparent low bidder, as non-responsive for failure to complete the bid form in its entirety.

**5. (Continued)**

- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-1-3215 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Mariposa Landscaping, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in the amount of \$284,640, for landscape maintenance services along the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way.

**6. Cooperative Agreements with Agencies Participating in the Measure M2 Senior Mobility Program**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to:

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute cooperative agreements with 32 cities and three non-profit agencies participating in the Senior Mobility Program.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3259 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the non-profit agency Abrazar, Inc., in the amount of \$82,248 to provide funding through June 30, 2022.
- C. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3260 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the non-profit agency Korean American Senior Association of Orange County, in the amount of \$101,116 to provide funding through June 30, 2022.
- D. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3261 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the non-profit agency Southland Integrated Services, Inc., in the amount of \$88,910, to provide funding through June 30, 2022.

**7. Measure M2 Project U Senior Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Funding and Program Guidelines**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to:

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3446 with the County of Orange to continue providing funding for the Senior Non-Emergency Medical Transportation program.
- B. Adopt the revised Measure M2 Project U Senior Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Funding Guidelines.

**8. Amendment to the Agreement with First Transit, Inc., for the Provision of Contracted Fixed-Route Service**

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, noted that the table on page six of the Staff Report is missing a row of numbers, but it does not change the total amount in the recommendations. Mr. Johnson, CEO, stated that this would be corrected in the May 24, 2021 Board Agenda packet.

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 13 to Agreement No. C-4-1737 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and First Transit, Inc., in the amount of \$87,515,543, to exercise the second two-year option term to provide contracted fixed-route services through May 31, 2023, with adjustment of the end date to June 10, 2023, and permit reimbursement of First Transit, Inc. expenses related to maintaining a state of readiness and eligible for federal funding at amounts not to exceed of \$5,000,000 for the first and \$3,000,000 for the second year of the option term, increasing the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$315,856,805.

**9. Amendment to Agreement for Same-Day Taxi Service**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 5-0, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. C-8-1440 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Cabco Yellow, Inc., doing business as California Yellow Cab, to exercise the second option term of the agreement to continue providing same day taxi service in the amount of \$1,825,309. This amendment will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$8,643,120.

Due to the Levine Act, Director Do did not participate or vote on this item.

**10. Low Carbon Transit Operations Program Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and Prior Year Funds**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Committee Chairman Shaw, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to:

- A. Approve Resolution No. 2021-042 to authorize the use of fiscal year 2020-21 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program funds, prior year funds, and interest earnings totaling \$6,359,899, as follows:
  - \$3,703,032 for the “Welcome Back” Fare Reduction Program for OC Bus Riders,
  - \$716,152 for the College Pass Program for Orange Coast College,
  - \$1,940,715 for the Ten Battery-Electric Buses, Bus Depot Upgrades and Charging Infrastructure Project.
- B. Authorize staff to make all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program, as well as execute any necessary agreements to facilitate the recommendations above.

## **Regular Calendar**

**11. June 2021 Bus Service Change**

Charlie Larwood, Department Manager of Planning and Analysis and Stella Lin, Department Manager of Marketing and Customer Engagement, co-presented a PowerPoint presentation on this item.

## **11. (Continued)**

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Slide 11 of the PowerPoint presentation and how the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) plans to distribute and promote the bus passes.
- OCTA sells the passes through many different channels like supermarket chains, the OCTA store, and social service agencies. Historical data on pass sales will determine how many passes to distribute to vendors.
- The money received from the Low Carbon Transit Operations (LCTOP) Program will probably last seven to eight months to support the OCTA Welcome Back Fare Reduction Program.
- Attracting new riders by creating a completely free fare promotion will be discussed further.
- Three bills in the state legislature address “fareless” transit, relief under the coronavirus (COVID-19) for the farebox recovery requirements, and OCTA still adhering to the state guidance for capacity constraints.
- OCTA has received a grant to offer free fares to age 13 and under, based on LCTOP guidelines.
- Director Do requested that in Item 10, staff clarify the language in the second paragraph of Attachment A. A revised version of Attachment A will be included in the May 24, 2021 Board agenda packet.
- Every college has a different approach and is still deciding on whether they will be back in-person in the fall.
- OCTA is currently running 70 percent of service to carry about 50 percent of riders. Staff will ask for additional bus service increases in August 2021, once schools begin.

A motion was made by Director Do, seconded by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to:

- A. Approve the final June 2021 bus service change and direct staff to begin implementation.
- B. Receive and file the June 2021 Bus Service Change Public Involvement Program Final Report.
- C. Direct the Executive Director of Planning, or his designee, to file a Notice of Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act related to the bus service change.

## **12. Contract Change Orders for Over-Excavation of Unsuitable Soils and Utility Conflicts for the Construction of the OC Streetcar Project**

Ross Lew, Senior Program Manager of OC Streetcar Project, reported on the background of the contract change orders, how staff plans to address the unknown utility issues, and an overview of the recommendations.

A discussion ensued regarding the risks and unknowns moving forward. Many of the excavations have determined the number of contaminated materials removed and extensive utility research has identified the conflicts. Staff is confident that most of the issues have already been addressed at the Board of Directors meeting and Transit Committee in past updates.

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu, seconded by Director Do, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-0, to:

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Contract Change Order No. 52.1 to Agreement No. C-7-1904 with Walsh Construction Company II, LLC, in the amount of \$540,000, for over-excavation of unsuitable soils for the construction of the OC Streetcar project.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Contract Change Order No. 4.3 to Agreement No. C-7-1904 with Walsh Construction Company II, LLC, in the amount of \$2,000,000, for work to address utility conflicts for the construction of the OC Streetcar project.

## **Discussion Items**

### **13. OC Bus Service Update**

Due to time constraints Johnny Dunning, Jr, Department Manager of Scheduling and Bus Operations Support, did not provide a PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Dunning stated ridership is steady, and staff is getting ready to make any adjustments, if needed to the bus service. OCTA is starting to make OC ACCESS services available to disadvantaged populations to disperse the COVID-19 vaccine in the City of Santa Ana.

### **14. Future of Transit Workshops Preview**

Mr. Johnson, CEO, presented a short PowerPoint presentation and summarized the two Transit Workshops that would be presented at the May 24<sup>th</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup> Board meetings.

**14. (Continued)**

Committee Vice Chairman Sidhu stated the City of Anaheim (Anaheim) is hiring a consultant to review the future of ridership in Anaheim and is requesting OCTA's support with the bus service. Mr. Johnson, CEO, responded that he would be happy to engage with the city staff and to have OCTA's Planning department involved.

Director Do complimented Anaheim for hiring the consultant, highlighted the future of developments, such as the Olympics coming to the Honda Center, and asked about slide two of the PowerPoint presentation and combining the two workshops. Mr. Johnson, CEO, explained the differences between "High-Quality Transit Improvements" in the first and second workshops.

Committee Chairman Shaw stated he would not be able to attend the June 28<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting and Mr. Johnson, CEO, suggested talking to Chairman Do and rescheduling the workshop to August.

**15. Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget Workshop Follow-up**

Anthony Baruch, Section Manager of Financial Planning and Analysis, explained how this item would go to every Committee and Board Meeting until June 14<sup>th</sup>, when the Public Hearing for the Budget will take place. The feedback received from those meetings is updated each time in a questions and answers handout.

**16. Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Mr. Johnson, CEO, reported on the following:

- Offered to make sure that every Board Member has the opportunity to review the budget and assist them with any questions.
- Next week on May 19<sup>th</sup>, Jennifer L. Bergener, Deputy CEO, and Mr. Johnson, CEO, will be hosting a lunch webinar for the Women's Transportation seminar. The discussion will be focused on the updated Measure M Next 10 plan. Mr. Johnson, CEO, noted that if any Committee members would like to attend, please let him know.
- The month of May is Bike Month and there are several efforts underway to promote and highlight this. Through the Bike Everywhere campaign, OCTA staff asks people to pledge to ride their bikes around the neighborhood, to the store, or to work. To date, OCTA has almost 500 pledges, and the goal is to have 700 pledges. Those who pledge will be entered to win prizes and are encouraged to check out [octa.net/bikeeverywheremonth](http://octa.net/bikeeverywheremonth) to find more information.



**17. Committee Members' Reports**

Director Nguyen stated that he teaches at California State University, Fullerton and can provide staff with information on their transportation needs.

He also acknowledged Ms. Lin and her staff for putting together the Customer Focus Groups. He participated in the English and Vietnamese meetings and heard nothing but positive feedback from the community.

**18. Closed Session**

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.

**19. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 10, 2021**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Conference Room 07, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

ATTEST

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Tim Shaw  
Committee Chairman

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Sahara Meisenheimer  
Deputy Clerk of the Board